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PRESS RELEASE

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LACDMH PIO DEBUTS MONTHLY TV SHOW, *MEETING OF THE MINDS*

Focused on mental health topics, the show interviews experts and people with lived experience.

Los Angeles, CA – Starting this month, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) Public Information Office (PIO) will be airing its all-new monthly TV show, *Meeting of the Minds*, on the [LACDMH website](#) as well as on the LACDMH [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages. The monthly 10-minute show will also be broadcast on the LA County Channel.

Funded by the voter-passed Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), the show will inform residents about the latest news and developments related to mental health and LACDMH. The show features three segments: News, Message from the LACDMH Director (Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.) and Walk the Talk.

The news segment will feature up-to-date mental health-related information and stories. During the Message from the Director segment, Dr. Southard will share a brief, topical message, specifically for Los Angeles County residents. The final segment, Walk the Talk, is a one-on-one discussion with a mental health subject matter expert and/or individual who has successfully overcome barriers related to being diagnosed with mental illness, including bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and anxiety.

“Sir Francis Bacon said, ‘Knowledge is power.’ Because we, at the Department of Mental Health, believe that knowledge about mental illness leads to the power of hope for wellness and recovery, we are presenting *Meeting of the Minds* as a source of knowledge about mental illness and its treatment, and, therefore, as a powerful tool for recovery,” stated Dr. Southard.

As part of LACDMH’s anti-stigma and social inclusion campaign, *Meeting of the Minds* reinforces the Department’s mission of *Hope, Wellness and Recovery*. Archived shows of *Meeting of the Minds* will be available on the [LACDMH website](#) as well as on the LACDMH [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages.

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The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health is the largest county-operated mental health department in the United States, directly operating 75 program sites and more than 100 co-located sites. Each year, it contracts with approximately 1,000 agencies and individual practitioners to provide a spectrum of mental health services to more than 250,000 residents of all ages. The Department's mission -- enriching lives through partnership to strengthen our community's capacity to support recovery and resiliency -- is accomplished by working with stakeholders and community partners to provide clinically competent, culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate mental health services to clients in the least restrictive manner possible.

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